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THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

NON-PARTY. ***Societies and Branches in the Union* 602.** **LAW-ABIDING.**

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HOW TO HELP.

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time being suspended their political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war. They desire to help in the most effective way, by work rather than doles; to preserve the life of the race for the future by special care of mothers and young children; and generally to illustrate in their own lives the truth that the Suffragists' demand is for duties rather than for rights, and their ideal is the service of humanity. WILL YOU JOIN?

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Notes and News.

British-born "Aliens."

We little thought that our protest against the injustice of the re-enactment of the provision in the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act (1914), which deprives a British woman of her nationality on her marriage with an alien, would be so soon and so overwhelmingly justified. To-day, there are hundreds of British-born women who have never been out of this country, who have been made to register as alien enemies, who have regularly to report themselves at the police stations, who are not allowed to go more than five miles from their place of registration, whose relief has been declared by the circular issued by the Government Committee on the Prevention and Relief of Distress as falling "outside the scope of the National Relief Fund"; whereas no corresponding restrictions have been placed on the British-born men who have married alien enemies. Not only, however, are these British-born wives who have been deprived of their nationality considered "outside the scope of the National Relief Fund," but this Government Committee has taken upon itself to recommend the exclusion of a large number of British subjects. They suggest that the dependants of alien enemies should be outside the scope of the fund, and these dependants include large numbers of children who have been born in this country and are, therefore, British subjects.

British-born Wives and Children of Interned Aliens.

All the more, however, do we welcome the recognition by the Government of its responsibility towards the British-born wives of aliens through the Local Government Board. A circular, issued on November 19th, after pointing out that the funds placed at the disposal of the American Embassy by the German and Austrian Governments for the benefit of distressed Germans and Austrians may not continue to be available for the British-born wives of interned persons, and their children, provides that the Guardians are to administer a special fund to the British-born wives of interned aliens who are without sufficient resources. The relief is to be given on the same scale as that to the wives of British husbands who are without resources. In the special case where the alien husband was in regular employment at the time of his internment, the wife is to receive 8s. (or 10s. in London) a week, with an additional 1s. 6d. a week for each dependant child. The women are to be informed that it is not poor relief, but money specially voted by the Government for this purpose. Wide publicity should be given to this information, both as it effects the British-born wife and the German or Austrian-born wife. Much of the distress which many of these women have suffered might have been spared had it been widely known that the American Embassy had such funds to dispense. And it apparently still has funds for the German and Austrian-born wives of alien enemies.

The Childless Widow and the State.

On Wednesday last an interesting debate took place in the House of Commons on naval and military pensions. A desire was expressed on all sides of the House to deal generously with both the soldiers and sailors themselves, and also with their widows and children, and the whole question has now been referred to a representative committee whose decisions Mr. Asquith has promised that the Government will accept "with perfect loyalty." The chief difference of opinion was shown on the question of the childless widow. Mr. Barnes maintained that she should be "kept out of the labour market altogether, and given a pension which would maintain her in the kind of life to which she had been accustomed." Mr. Bonar Law, on the other hand, declared that young widows without children who had been in the habit of working "would naturally prefer to work as honourable and independent persons who gain their own livelihood, and add to their own comfort," and he protested against putting them in a position in which they need not work at all. The question at once arises—is a married woman to be regarded as an individual, or as part of a family? In the latter case (represented by Mr. Barnes), she is, when pensioned, simply receiving the deferred pay of her husband, and this pay should be sufficient to maintain her. In the second (represented by Mr. Asquith), she was not "supported" by her husband, but was a fellow wage-earner with him, her work

being the care of the home. When he dies, she is released for other work, and may rightly be expected to do it. The problem goes right to the heart of the question of woman's position in the world, and we are inclined, on the whole, to believe that Mr. Asquith's view is the sounder one.

The Consequence of Being Right.

The Prime Minister must not, however, save money by regarding women as individuals with duties now, only to regard them as non-individuals with no rights but those belonging to their husbands later on. In other words, if they must work they must also vote!

Pensions and Class.

The sex question is, moreover, complicated by the old vicious traditions of class. If it is right and self-respecting of the childless working-class widow to work, it cannot be right for the officer's widow to be idle. Yet no one proposes to thrust her into the labour market. It is true that, in practice, it would be cruel to do so since middle-class women are still frequently quite untrained for any kind of skilled work. But then so are many working-class wives. It may be possible, if not logically or finally right, to meet the difficulty by a pension system which would put the widow in a position to command a training, and to hold out for good terms on entering work. We believe that Mr. Asquith is mistaken in supposing that "highly subsidized widows" would bring down the rate. They are far more likely to force it up. It is the economically helpless who are sweated and the cause of sweating.

The Widow with Children.

In discussing the position of the widow left with children, Mr. Barnes made the very sound statement that she ought to be regarded as the agent of the State and the children made wards of the State, while the mother receives enough from the State to enable her to rear her children in decency and comfort. With State responsibility must go State machinery, and the Pensions Committee or Education Committee will probably be the most suitable agency through which the State can work.

A Select Committee.

We have nothing to complain of in the *personnel* of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the whole question, so far as the men are concerned. But the idiocy of shutting women out from all share in their own government becomes more than ever apparent when it results in a purely male committee to consider a question which is so much more a woman's question than a man's. A "Select Committee" must consist of Members of Parliament; but why not alter the form of the Committee and give it a name which would allow women to be included?

Total Abstinence in Russia.

The Manchester Guardian (November 20th) publishes a description of the effect in Russia of total prohibition. We can only quote the concluding words from a Simbirsk correspondent:—

"Temperance has done a great piece of work in the villages. It has introduced peace and tranquillity into public life, brought joy into the families, has raised the material condition of the peasants, and has rendered them purer, better, more moral. May this holy, long-desired temperance for ever remain in the life of the village!"

And may Great Britain, we may add, find some way congenial to the spirit of her people, of securing results so enviable in our great ally.

Comforts for Belgian Soldiers.

We call attention to an appeal in another column for comforts for the Belgian Army. These brave soldiers have no one "at home" to whom to look for help. Their homes are desolate. We are doing what we can for those who are driven out. Let us also do something for the men who are fighting and dying to win their homes back again. We are confident that if material could be provided, the Belgian refugees in our country would like no work so well as that of making comforts for their men at the front. It would be a consolation, indeed, to them to be thus able to help.

In Parliament.

November 18th.

Wives and Children of Interned Aliens.

Mr. Dickinson (N. St. Pancras, U.) asked the Under Secretary for War whether a large number of the wives and children of interned aliens are in a state of destitution, many of these wives being of British birth, and the children of British nationality.

Mr. Tennant (Berwickshire, L.) replied that funds have been placed at the disposal of the Local Government Board by the Treasury for the relief of these cases. The distribution would be through the Board of Guardians.

Soldiers and Sailors and their Dependants—Pensions and Grants.

Motion made and question proposed:—

"That a Select Committee be appointed to consider a scheme of pensions and grants for men in the naval and military services wounded in the present war, and for the widows, orphans, and dependants of men who have lost their lives."

Mr. Hayes Fisher (Fulham, U.) urged that the reference should be enlarged to include men discharged by reason of wounds or disease arising from the war. To this the Prime Minister agreed. A suggestion made by Mr. Denman, and supported by Mr. Butcher, that the question of separation allowances should be considered by the Committee, as well as that of pensions, was also accepted, and it was explained that the question of payments to officers and their dependants would also be considered.

Mr. Hayes Fisher in initiating the discussion, pointed out the difficulty of fixing any flat rule for pensions that would be fair to all, as the soldiers in the new army came from so many different classes. "One woman will be more than well off with £1 a week, while another woman will be heavily penalised with the same amount":—

"My own view of this question is broadly this: that . . . there ought to be a capital sum of money placed in the hands of some body or another, such as the Royal Patriotic Fund, which has administered the pensions for the Transvaal war. Whether the flat rate adopted be 7s. 6d., or 10s., or 12s., or £1 a week, you will never really satisfactorily and equitably solve this question unless you put a capital sum of money in the hands of some body which shall differentiate and discriminate between the different cases which have to be met."

Mr. Hayes Fisher maintained that the widow under the new scheme was little or no better off than under the old:—

"They say the old scale only shows 5s.; the new scale 7s. 6d. Now, that is very misleading. . . . The real pension which a Transvaal widow gets is not merely the Government pension of 5s., but she also gets a supplementary pension of 2s. from the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation." . . .

He urged that later on the whole question of pensions and allowances to wives and children during the war should be handed over to one body, sitting in one building. At present there was great confusion and overlapping, and if the old-age pension officers were to administer the new pensions, and the Royal Patriotic Funds the pensions to Transvaal widows, the confusion would be still worse.

Penalisation of Marriage.

Mr. Barnes (Glasgow, Blackfriars, Lab.) protested against the penalisation of married men by stoppages out of their meagre pay of 7s. A married man should be given the full 7s., and the State should pay his wife enough to live on in comfort. Several other speakers supported this view, and maintained that it was absurd to regard a soldier receiving 7s. a week as coming under the common-law obligation to maintain his wife. This obligation ought to be undertaken by the State.

The Widow.

With regard to widows, Mr. Barnes considered that they should be given enough to keep them out of the labour market altogether. He was glad to acknowledge that the payment of 5s. instead of 1s. 6d. for the first child was an improvement, but this was no more than is now given by many Boards of Guardians for boarded-out children:—

"In paying 5s. in respect of the first child, you are putting the child of the soldier, who lays down his life for his country, on the same level as the child maintained by the Board of Guardians. Further than that, the Guardians do not limit it to one child. They pay the same amount in respect of two or three, or even half-a-dozen. The present scale of pay meant that a widow would have to go out to work, and that the children would be neglected. . . . The State should pay her a sufficient amount to keep herself and children in the comfort to which they are entitled."

Mr. Barnes also urged that the pensions allowed to disabled men were "miserably inadequate." No man could live on 14s. a week, and it meant that he was to be a burden to his friends and relatives.

Protesting against the "fussy people going round visiting the homes of working-class people," Mr. Barnes said:—

"There was the case of a woman whose son went to the war in the early days. She got nothing; she was entitled to nothing from the public

funds, but she was visited by a man, who, after asking a lot of impertinent and sometimes indelicate questions, instead of giving the woman anything, went down on his marrow-bones and began to pray for her, and then told her that he had nothing to give her in the way of material aid, but gave her a tract, with a preposterous picture. . . . I protest against these people going to working-class homes in that way. . . . This sort of thing is getting sickening."

He demanded that the Government should deal generously with the widows and dependants of soldiers, and that payments should be made through the Post Office or some agency of the State.

MR. BONAR LAW (Lancs., Bootle, U.) did not agree with Mr. Barnes that it would be for the benefit of widows of our soldiers that they should be in a position in all cases in which they would never have to work again.

"We must have regard to the fact that a considerable number of these young widows are without children, and are not, therefore, burdened with the cares of maternity—that they have been in the habit of working, and would naturally prefer to work as honourable and independent persons who gain their own livelihood and add to their own comforts."

MR. BRACE (Glamorgan, Lab.) put the view of the trade organisations that every home should have at least a pound a week, the home being taken as the unit.

The great body of organised labour in the country would not accept the Government scale, but hoped that it would be amended "in a direction to be fair and just and honourable to the brave men and officers alike who are giving their lives and their blood for their country."

MR. WALTER LONG (Strand, U.) suggested that more use should be made of civilian assistance, in order to secure that soldiers' wives should get their money as soon as the men left. All the difficulties and complications which arose in connection with these payments had made the work of the War Office almost impossible. The work could only be done easily and smoothly if the administration were extended by breaking up the system into smaller districts and making use of the local government organisation, including the pensions officers.

MR. PRATT (Linlithgow, Lib.) supported this suggestion, and protested against the police supervision of soldiers' wives. He was glad to see, from a White Paper, that, with regard to pensions, the local pensions committee, and especially the education authorities, were being called in to see that the money paid to mothers in trust for their children was properly spent for the benefit of these children. He hoped that a similar line of policy would be adopted with regard to the payment of separation allowances. The only fair test that could be applied as to whether any woman was making proper use of the money was whether she was looking after her children properly.

Mr. Pratt also said that the amount decided by Government did not do justice to the woman either as wife or woman. He did not agree with the Prime Minister that to give a young woman sufficient to relieve her from going out to work would have a demoralising effect :—

"There are many women who will be left who have not had to work in their younger days, who were brought up at home, and have never been thrown on the labour market, and I think it would be a great misfortune, little short of a scandal, if, because of the heroism and loyalty of the husband, they are thrown on the labour market now."

It was resolved :—

"That a Select Committee be appointed to consider a scheme of Pensions and Grants for officers and men in the Naval and Military services, disabled by wounds or disease arising out of the present war, and for the widows, orphans, and dependants of officers and men who have lost their lives; whether the existing scheme of separation allowances to wives, children, and dependants should be amended; if so, in what way?"

Mr. Barnes, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. McKenna, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor are the members appointed to the Select Committee.

November 23rd.

BRITISH-BORN WIVES OF ALIENS.

MR. NIELD (Middlesex, Ealing, U.) asked the Home Secretary whether he would advance the applications for renaturalisation of widows of alien enemies who, at the time of their marriage, were British-born subjects, and who now desire to resume their naturalisation.

MR. MCKENNA replied that such applications were given the most favourable consideration, and dealt with as quickly as the pressure of work allowed, but that meanwhile they cannot be excused from registering.

PUBLIC-HOUSES AND CLUBS.

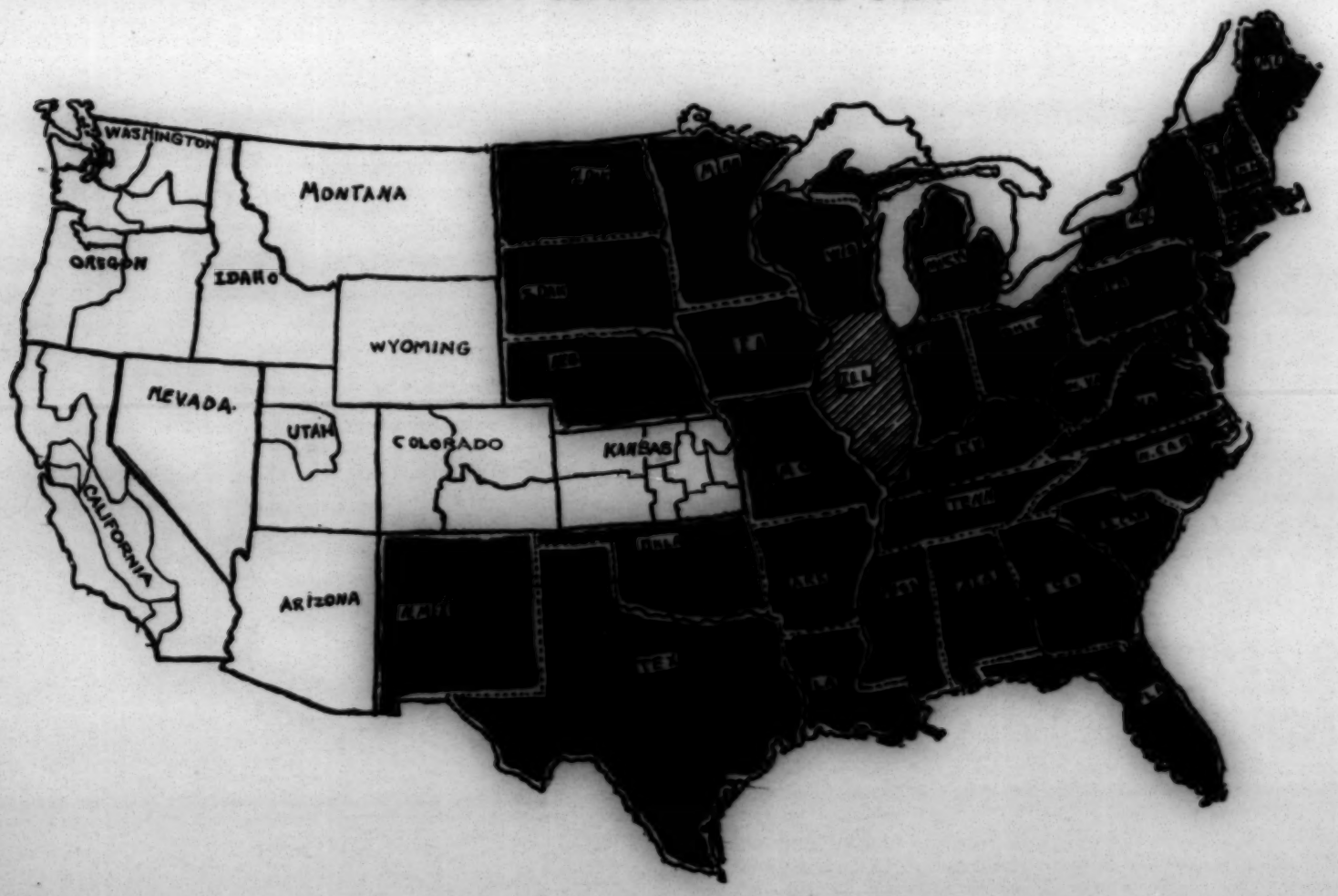
MR. CHANCELLOR asked the Home Secretary whether he is aware that the Croydon borough magistrates have recently passed a resolution that it was desirable to close public-houses and clubs in that borough at 9 p.m., and submitted it to the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who refused to recommend earlier closing; and whether, seeing that numbers of soldiers stationed at the Crystal Palace, Mitcham-road Barracks, and Caterham Barracks are frequently in Croydon, he will take steps to have their resolutions complied with?

MR. MCKENNA: The Commissioner of Police informs me that he has not received the resolution referred to by my hon. Friend.

November 24th.

Asked whether he would authorise women patrol corps for Scotland on the lines adopted in England, the Lord Advocate replied that arrangements were being considered.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN THE U.S.A.



[In the white States women have equal political rights with men. In the shaded one (Illinois) they have the Municipal and Presidential vote. In the black States, they have neither.]

LADY JELLICOE AT THE GUILDHALL.

Dr. FLORENCE WILLEY on Some Disquieting Problems of the War.

Last week, for the first time in history, a meeting of women took place at the Guildhall. The gathering was large and enthusiastic, but it was disappointing that the speakers did not keep more closely to the subject which the meeting was specially called to consider—the conditions of demoralisation and drink arising in some parts of the country since the war. The difficulties of soldiers' wives were sympathetically discussed, and the need for the greater care of maternity was also urged by several speakers, but except by Dr. Florence Willey, whose speech we give below, and by Lady Jellicoe, who spoke of the Tipperary Rooms, few constructive proposals were made.

Speaking from the chair, Lady Jellicoe said that the Tipperary Rooms for the wives of soldiers and sailors were proving a great success. She hoped that similar rooms would soon be opened all over the country. There ought to be a "Tipperary League" to bind women together. If a woman were obliged to leave her home and found in a new town a room with the familiar name, she would recognise at once that here was her club, where she could feel at home. These clubs should continue after the war. But while the war went on, it was, above all, necessary that the women should uphold the honour of their country at home. Lady Jellicoe then delivered

A Message to the Women of Great Britain

from Admiral Sir John Jellicoe :—

"I am sure you will tell the wives and children and sisters of our men of the spirit that prevails, and I know that it will make them all desire to show in their own lives that they are dominated by the same spirit to do the best they can for their country, so that they may be worthy of their menkind, of whom it is impossible to say too much."

Dr. Florence Willey, after speaking of the fine services which women were rendering, and their willingness to do anything further which might be demanded of them, said :—

"The power of woman is great. So much the more terrible is that power when dragged from its high ideals and turned to expend itself in low ends. There are two classes of women causing much anxiety to-day to those who have the good of our country at heart. They are the women who so suddenly have taken to excess in drink and the women who are a serious menace to the morals and health of our recruits. It is for women gravely to consider how these evils have arisen, and what means can be used to diminish them.

"The excessive drinking among women is chiefly among soldiers' wives, or at any rate they have appeared to lead the way, drawing other neighbours in. It is associated with the sudden possession of money on a scale unusual to them, together with less to do in the home with husband gone, and this at a time when general restlessness and desire for human intercourse and friendships is a feature among all classes. These women have been so accustomed to have small inadequate allowances to spend on the household, and never pocket-money for themselves, that the sudden access of wealth naturally makes them desire to treat their neighbours in the hour of prosperity, and the only way known to them is at the public-house.

What, Dr. Willey asked, was the remedy? Not the supervision of soldiers' wives—offending or innocent—a suggestion which is an insult to every woman and every right-minded soldier, but the teaching to those women of the best way in which their money can be laid out. Not, again, legislation which distinguished between the sexes. Public-houses, she pointed out, are the poor people's clubs. They are thronged in time of war because the same impulse which leads some of the most reserved individuals to start friendly conversations with the stranger next him in 'bus or train, sends men and women, soldiers and girls, to the public-houses.

"We don't want the club side of the public-house closed to man or woman, but we do want the possibility—still more the obligation—to take strong drink curtailed.

"If, instead of excluding women from the public-houses before eleven while allowing men to enter, only non-alcoholic drinks were sold before that hour, it would be more effective. All who know anything of the homes of the poor will realise that in a time like this, when human nature demands and will have fellowship, the most essential need is clubs and meeting places free from temptations of the grosser kind."

The other subject, Dr. Willey said, was more difficult. In it was involved the ruin of men by women and of girls by men.

"There was no doubt that many factors combined to make the present time one of extreme peril for the young girls of the working class.

(1) The general enthusiasm for the soldiers and pride in the men who are risking their lives for their country.

(2) The lack of work for girls of from 14 to 18, many of whom have been thrown out of employment, and have nothing to do but lark about in the streets.

(3) The desire for sacrifice, even to the point of sacrifice of virtue; and, last but not least,

(4) Lack of knowledge. If girls knew all they risked, in many cases the sacrifice would not be made."

On the other hand, Dr. Willey pointed out, the numbers of so-called women of the underworld have been largely augmented through many causes, and the huge camps of young men were naturally their point of attack.

"It is the flower of our young manhood that is in danger, and two things make him weak where he might be strong. These are (*a*) the ignorance of the young men of the full consequences of the risks they take, and (*b*) the absurdly false idea that what disgraces a woman for life is manly and desirable in the man who disgraces her.

"Now, we are all aware that no brief platform statement of these conditions touches more than the fringe of all the difficulties which are involved, but surely that same bulldog pluck and determination which can hold on and slowly overcome on the fields of Belgium in face of frightful odds can do something real to combat the terrible dangers which have called this meeting together—dangers which will prove more destructive to our young army than any German howitzers, and which are filling our army leaders with grave apprehension."

On the question of what can be done to abate those evils Dr. Willey maintained that :—

(1) No method which degrades women will remedy an evil that comes from the degradation of women.

(2) No regulations affecting both men and women so intimately as any regulations on this subject must do, ought to be made by either sex alone. They must, to be wise, be drawn up by men and women in consultation.

(3) It was necessary to remember that the strong man or woman is the free man or woman, that England is great because of her traditions of freedom, and, therefore, efforts even to combat evil should leave humanity as free as possible."

Dr. Willey put forward the following suggestions :—

(1) That young people should be taught frankly about the perils which they run—perils which may affect not only themselves, but the coming generation. Knowledge would do much to save both young men and young women from the first downward step. At present, many of them think that the ordinarily accepted rules of moral conduct have no deeper sanction than the ideas of freedom.

(2) Recreation. Club-rooms for men and women, other than the public house.

(3) A War Service Corps for girls (on practically the same lines as those of the Active Service Corps advocated by Mrs. Harley).

(4) Employment of some congenial kind for women who have been leading disorderly lives.

Speaking on this last, and most difficult question, Dr. Willey pointed out that these women must live, and it was no use thinking we were gointg to solve the problem by selling women used to a life of excitement to a life of monotonous drudgery. Some interest must be provided, and some recreation. We all need joy in our lives, and for these women joy as well as repentance was essential.

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A SUFFRAGIST NURSE'S ADVENTURES.

We have already published a letter from Miss Thurston, the Suffragist nurse, who was with many others turned out of Belgium by the Germans. They were sent to Copenhagen, and some—including Miss Thurston—have volunteered for service with the Russians. We have received an account of their brief stay in Copenhagen from a Danish correspondent, who writes :—

"Fatigued and exhausted after a journey of three days and nights—the Germans had turned the English nurses out of Brussels and transported them through Germany—they retired the first night at the hotels 'Kongen of Danmark' and 'Cosmopolite,' but already the following morning they were again 'all right' after having enjoyed a real bed. As 'Dansk Sygeplye Road' (D.S.R.) (Danish Nursing Council) in the morning papers had read about the arrival of the English colleagues, we called on the British legation, which referred us to Dr. Wyatt, leader of the party, who gladly accepted our offer of assistance during their stay here."

The nurses were shown the hospitals and laboratories of Copenhagen, among others the Finsen Light-cure Institute :—

"The British physicians and nurses all appeared and seemed to be highly interested in seeing the original seat for the treatment, with which most of them already were acquainted from home. The chief physician, Dr. Reyn, showed the visitors all over the house, and courteously answered all questions put to him." . . . "Tea was served and toast, which the English nurses said they had not tasted since they left England. One would hardly believe that these cheerful nurses, looking so well in their different coloured hospital dresses and the pretty white caps, had only a few days ago witnessed all the horrors of war. Dr. Norman Hansen, who was present, addressed himself to the nurses, thanking them for their labour in the service of humanity, and wishing them success in their future work; and Miss Thurston, small and slight, but stamped with intellect and energy, thanked the D.S.R. for their kind reception, and mentioned the calm and security the nurses felt in these peaceful surroundings after the recent severe times."

The following poem was written by a Danish doctor in honour of the British surgeons and nurses passing through Copenhagen :—

Silent we bid you welcome,
In silence you answered our greeting,
Because our lips must be closed,
And your teeth are set against the gale

Our lips are mute,
Our minds are open,
We shall greet you farewell in silence;
Sowers of good-will
On fields where hate is sown,
Fare ye well.

(C. Norman Hansen, M.D.)

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

The first unit of the Women's Hospital has been packed and ready to start for some time now, but various difficulties have arisen and at the time of going to press, the start could not be made. It is, in any case, only a question of days. Dr. Alice Hutchison and Nurse Linton are actually in France making arrangements. One unit is to go to Chantilly, where an abbey is placed at their service by Mme. la Vicomtesse de Panouse, head of the French Red Cross Society. Another will start for Serbia as soon as possible. The appeal of Dr. Depages for two doctors and ten nurses to go to Calais will also be met, though it was not part of the original scheme to send anything but complete hospital units. Dr. Inglis is anxious to develop the work *as it is needed*, without any red tape; and for this reason she is asking for more money and yet more. £5,500 is already in hand, £1,500 is being raised by the past and present students of Newnham and Girton. "Now," says Dr. Inglis, "we have a splendid offer of work in France, where it will be most valuable. But for another unit we want £2,000 *at once*. Are we to refuse for lack of funds?

It will interest those who give to know that though the sums needed have exceeded Dr. Inglis's original estimates, they are regarded as extraordinarily low by other experts. Dr. Alice Hutchison says the hospitals are the best equipped she has ever seen, and they have cost £10 a bed instead of the £25 demanded by some! "We shall have to get Scottishwomen to do our buying," said one Red Cross Committee to Dr. Inglis.

IN MEMORIAM—HAROLD ROLLESTON STABLES.

The Woking Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. records with deep sorrow the death of Harold Rolleston Stables (2nd Lieutenant Royal Fusiliers, gazetted on probation in August), who was killed in action on Sunday, November 15th, aged twenty-eight. Mr. Stables had been a member of this branch since 1910, and of the Committee for the last few years. He was an extremely able speaker, and was always ready to help the many Societies who sought his services. His help to women's work in Woking was constant and invaluable. Our sincere sympathy is given to his two sisters.

PROFESSIONALS AND VOLUNTEERS.

We are informed by Mrs. Olive MacLehose that she has received a categorical denial from Lady Roxburgh and Miss Mary Macarthur to the charge brought against the Central Committee on Women's Employment of having dismissed paid workers for volunteers. We are glad to know that it is not true. The charge was made in a signed letter, published in a prominent position in *The Times*. As no contradiction was made to this very conspicuous assertion, we concluded, after waiting some days, that none was forthcoming. We cannot help feeling that it would have been wise to confute the charge where it was originally made.

COMFORTS FOR BELGIAN SOLDIERS.

An appeal is being made for funds to provide material to enable the Belgian women who are now refugees in England to make comforts for their own soldiers at the front and their own wounded. Wherever there are "Belgian Hospitality" or "Relief Committees" work-rooms could speedily be organised and the work given out. The employment, though unpaid, would be a great boon to many, for the enforced idleness of the mass of refugees is becoming a serious evil. The co-operation of any Committees working for Belgian refugees is invited, and as soon as funds come in materials, with patterns of the articles to be made, will be sent to those who apply.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Secretaries of the Fund: Mrs. Mirrlees and Mrs. James Ward, 6, Selwyn Gardens, Cambridge. Cheques and P.O.'s to the Treasurer: Lady Darwin, Newnham Grange, Cambridge, crossed Barclay's Bank, Cambridge Branch, Belgian Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

"THE COMMON CAUSE" IN OUR CAMPS.

An excellent response has been made to our appeal for subscriptions, or copies of The Common Cause, to be supplied to camp reading-rooms. We are now supplying thirty-one copies, but we want more still. There are some hundred Y.M.C.A. rooms alone, and other associations have rooms also. We received this week the list of Scottish Y.M.C.A. rooms—twenty-eight of them. Will some of our Scottish readers help us here?

Two copies were being supplied to the camp for interned British in Holland, but Miss Sibley kindly offers to send them to an English camp instead.

The following donations have been received for supplying camps with the paper :—

Miss Catchpool, 6s. 6d.; Miss A. Cooke, 5s. (two months' instalment of 2s. 6d. promised monthly); Miss E. M. Aldis, 6s. 6d.; Miss Dickins, 1s. 9d.

The following have offered to send on their copy of The Common Cause weekly to one of the camps :—

Mrs. Hartland, Miss Macnair, Mrs. Knox, Miss Cleaver, Lady Scott Moncrieff, Mrs. Hawkins Ambler, Mrs. Fortey, Mrs. Rawlings, Miss L. Ross, Mrs. M. Steen, Miss J. Forster, Mrs. Bevington, Miss B. Bird, Mrs. Read, Mrs. Paulsen.

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HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON, DEPOT.—Mrs. Hogg, 23, Hornton Street, High Street, Kensington.

W.C. DISTRICT.—Mrs. Paul, 45, Regent's Square, W.C. Mrs. Paul will be glad of additional volunteers, as this district contains some splendid pitches. Papers will be distributed to helpers any day except Sunday.

CITY DEPOT.—Miss Gertrude Cohn, c/o The South-West Africa Co., 1, London Wall Buildings, E.C. Any member who can spare only half-an-hour when passing through the city is urged to call on Miss Cohn, who will give full particulars.

THE CHILDREN'S THEATRE.

It is good news that the children's season at the Little Theatre is not to be abandoned this year. Mrs. Dearmer has decided to go forward with it, in spite of the shadow of the war, and we are sure she is right. Although "theatres are empty and we have no heart for pleasure," yet "the children must not suffer because we are suffering"; nor, let us add, is it right to leave unused any occasion for employing those who are, of all people, perhaps the hardest hit by the war. Most of us, when we are hard-worked, find no relaxation and refreshment like the theatre. But now we are too sad to go, and we forget that our going or not going means not "relaxation" but a livelihood, to the actor and actress, the scene-shifter, and all those who live by the theatre. Mrs. Dearmer's play means employment for a large number of people, and we wish the "Cockyolly Bird" a long run. The opening is to be on Boxing Day, or possibly earlier, and Miss Lettice Fairfax is playing the part of the "mother."

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Correspondence.

A large amount of correspondence is unavoidably held over. It is necessary to remind our readers that there is no editorial responsibility for opinions expressed in the correspondence columns.

PEACE AND WAR.

Madam,—I read with feelings of dismay and surprise the letter in a previous issue by "Carol Ring"—dismay that Mrs. Ring should prostitute her great talents to furthering a policy of peace at any price, and surprise that The Common Cause should, at this terrible crisis, allow its columns to be used for such an unpatriotic purpose. For ten years Germany has talked peace, while preparing for war. Mrs. Ring, and those who think like her, have believed these professions. To their influence is due the fact that we have not had national service, and it is in spite of it that we have a navy that has saved this country from being overrun by the modern Huns, our cities laid waste, our women murdered and violated, our altars desecrated, and our most cherished national memorials laid in the dust. Had our manhood in the past not evaded its national responsibilities, Germany would never have dared attack her neighbours, for the whole plan of this campaign was to strike Paris down before assistance could reach the French. It is, therefore, due to the people of Mrs. Ring's way of thinking, that countless women are now mourning the loss of those they hold most dear. No, Madam! the regeneration of mankind will not be brought about by compromising with the spirit of evil, but by extirpating its representatives, and you, I am convinced, are doing great harm by advocating a policy of sickly sentimentality during the dread trial through which we are now passing.

"Common Sense."

[The Common Cause *has not advocated any policy.*—Ed., "C.C."]

Madam,—As one who has been somewhat disappointed by the attitude of our Suffragist leaders in the present national crisis, I write to thank you for opening your correspondence columns to a discussion of some of the problems which press upon our minds just now. Relief work is all very well—I would be the last to undervalue it—and the N.U., by its many activities, has taken a noble share of responsibility. But our Suffrage agitation has surely taught us nothing if it has not taught us that women are called upon to take a share in forming opinion and shaping thought, as well as in the practical activities of the moment. That is why I welcomed Miss O'Shea's letters on the peace movement, and that is why I regret that our leaders have not taken a stronger line in condemning the forces which have made this war possible. Peace is one of the principles the Women's Movement stands for, yet at this moment there are very few, even among Suffragists, who have faith enough or courage enough to speak out in its defence.

We are told that we must fight now to maintain our national existence. If women are not shrewd enough to prick the bubble of inflated speech, who is to do it? Our national existence is something which neither Germany nor anyone else can destroy; it is a thing of the spirit, not to be endangered by any material power. It is even conceivable that, in the deepest and truest sense, our national existence would be infinitely strengthened if we were defeated in this war; in any case, it is certain that no defeat could impair what is essential and ultimate—the soul of a people. We are fighting to maintain our power and prestige; that is what the whole matter turns upon. But prestige!—at the cost of hundreds of thousands of lives, and of such suffering of innocent people as the mind refuses to contemplate? At the risk of moral corruption which will break down the painful work of years of devotion and self-denial?—Is it worth the stupendous price we are paying? Of course, we want a new standard of values, yet not a new one, only a realisation of the standard Christianity sets, and a determination to abide by it. And this determination also involves a price. It will cost us something in pride and vain glory, in pomp and circumstance. But it cannot be possible that women who see to the heart of things, as Suffragist women surely have during these last years, should hesitate as to which price is best worth paying.

Miss I. O. Ford is reported to have said at the Kingsway Hall meeting, that if Suffragists had no other contribution to make to the national emergency than to organise relief work, they were not worthy to be Suffragists. Many of us would like them to give a strong lead to the women of England to condemn all war, and so to uphold the ideals of peace and brotherhood that even at this moment they might be cherished with hope and confidence.

Annie L. White.

Madam,—We are all so busied with the various pieces of work which have naturally fallen to our share as citizens—nursing, lecturing, relieving distress—that it may not be amiss to point out another duty equally urgent—a clearer realisation of the ideals for which we struggle in this war—a more vivid picture of the England and the Europe of the future, the world of our hopes. Spade work is useful, so useful that we are apt to become absorbed in it, to fix our eyes on the ground instead of "lifting them to the hills," where our ideals shine.

For these ideals of ours—and it is one of the advantages of our long struggle that we have had to realise them fully—are in essence those for which our country is now fighting, the right of each individual to liberty, self-development, and self-expression. We have for fifty years claimed it for ourselves as citizens of our country; we must see that we throw our whole weight into the balance, to win the same freedom for the small nations and democracies on the Continent of Europe. An essential part of this ideal is that force is no argument, and we of the National Union have always seen clearly that our aims could only be achieved by the methods of peace, that by violence can nothing worth winning ever be won. The anomaly is that the defence of this freedom elsewhere has forced our men to take into their hands the sword, a most unhappy and a most alarming event. The experience of centuries shows us that again and again, in fighting for an ideal, the ideal itself has vanished. So it may be with us, a new militarism may overwhelm us, even if we emerge victors from the war. The hotter the struggle, the greater is the danger that in the flush of success, calm, far-seeing thought will be impossible.

On the women it is laid to see that wise counsel, definite and well-laid plans are not lacking. Now is the time to give our country the best thought of our brains, as we have loyally given the work of our hands. Of one thing we may be sure, that if we shirk this half of our duty, there will be others who will shoulder it for us, and we shall, willy-nilly, be dragged at their heels towards whatever settlement may be by them concluded, whether or not it be in accordance with the principles we have held so dear.

A MEMBER OF THE NEWCASTLE SOCIETY.

MADAM,—You remark in your very interesting leader last week, that "if we have not considered the causes which make wars, it is certain that we shall never be able to apply the principles which make for peace." But how are we to set about considering such an exceedingly complex question? If we intend seriously, as I ardently hope we do, to face this subject at all, may I suggest that an educational campaign be started in THE COMMON CAUSE? What we seem to need is facts. It is, for instance, easy to assert that physical force can achieve no moral end; but what specific answer have most of us to the contention that it has in particular instances actually done so? Or again, you make an enlightening statement about the second Balkan War; but some of us are deprived of that argument through sheer ignorance of the causes and effects of the Balkan Wars.

I am not suggesting that we should ransack history to find support for our own foregone conclusions, but I do think that a knowledge of what physical coercion has actually accomplished, for good or evil, say, in modern Europe, would do something definite and practical towards enabling us "to apply the principles which make for peace."

C. C. LYON.

[*We are in entire agreement with Miss Lyon, and we propose to start the educational campaign she asks for, immediately. An article by Mr. Lyon Blease on "Our Treaty Obligations to Belgium and Luxembourg," will appear in our next issue, and will be followed by others on kindred subjects.*—ED., "C.C."]

MADAM,—I wish to thank THE COMMON CAUSE for last week's leading article. I believe most firmly that if we do not begin to consider the end of the war before that end is in sight, we shall be found unprepared. The result may be such a peace as will foster instead of preventing future wars. Our soldiers have the rare honour of fighting in a righteous cause. Surely the very strength of our position should make us the more ready to adopt a Christian spirit towards our enemies. . . . One cannot go out to the enemy as St. Francis went to preach to the Soldan of Egypt. Even St. Francis accomplished little thereby. But by "a just, an honourable, and a considered peace"—I quote from your leading article—we can show our adherence to the ideals for which our men are fighting. We know—or should know—the results of "crushing" a nation. Prussia was crushed by Napoleon. France was crushed in 1870-1. Half a century in each case saw the "destroyed" nation risen to stand again among the great Powers, with hatred in the hearts of her people. Even the gain of democratic government (now held forth as a hope for Germany) never compensated France for the bitterness of defeat. "Wars breed wars," according to Cæsar's saying, but in South Africa we went far towards proving that a peace may be made which leaves the vanquished self-respecting, and with respect, and even friendship, for the victors. Shall not the peace which is to end this most terrible of wars follow British rather than Prussian ideals? The International Suffrage Alliance has already done most splendid work in fostering sympathy between enemy countries—work that will never be forgotten either by the workers or by those helped. Cannot the National Union, without touching upon too debatable ground, work publicly for the promotion of such an opinion as shall bring about a sound and lasting peace?

MARGARET L. GREG.

WAR AND THE BIRTH RATE.

MADAM,—In to-day's number of *The Weekly Dispatch*, in his article on "Racial Ruin for Germany," Dr. Saleeby draws attention to the loss in quality to a nation when its best men are killed in war. Is not the logical remedy for this to make it easy for *every soldier to become a father* before going to the war? Is not the policy of putting marriage off till after the war pound-wise and penny-foolish from the national standpoint? Instead of discouraging marriage, the Government should promise allowance for wives married during the war, and generous provision for children born during the war. From the woman's point of view, this may be a method of serving the country in a way which later on she will be unable to do. I feel, in their heart of hearts, women would prefer to become mothers so, even if the child were born out of wedlock. As to lovers of idealistic temperament, would not the man wish to leave, feeling his wife had something of himself to cherish when he was gone; and would not woman, even if in poverty, rather have a child to in some way fill the place of the lost one? It is well to guard young men from mere dissipation; but is it well to deprive them of fatherhood, and the women of motherhood, especially when the nation needs the children? The Government can remove the financial difficulty, as to allowances and easy licences; and pointing out to the public the desirability of having children should help to do the rest.

HUGO.

RECREATION FOR SOLDIERS.

MADAM,—At the Guildhall, Lord Kitchener stated that there are to-day 1,250,000 men under training in England. We may feel assured that their work time is fully occupied. But man does not live by work alone, and with the days drawing in, there are long evenings to be passed, when the body is tired out, and the mind needs recreation to fit it for the morrow. The Y.M.C.A. have provided many halls, but these cannot accommodate a tenth of the men. Now, there is a scheme which I think would be most acceptable to both men and officers. Briefly it is this: Orzanise a corps of ladies, living near the camp; raise a capital sum of £500; erect a comfortable corrugated iron hall, which would cost some £300. Arrange with a cinematograph firm to provide moving pictures; keep the show going from dusk to "lights-out"; let it run for fifty minutes, and then an interval of ten minutes; make a charge of 1d. for each fifty minutes, this charge to pay the expenses of the cinematograph, the lady helpers to provide the music—a most important item. In the ten minutes' interval refreshments at cost price to be served by the lady helpers. During the day time, place the hall at the disposal of the camp authorities for military lectures.

In this way, many people who are anxious to do something to help might find work that would be of immense value, and the influence of such a body of women in the camp would do much to counteract many of the evils which have been deemed inevitable when large bodies of men are brought together away from all home influences.

A. C. C.

OLD ENGLISH DANCES FOR GIRLS' CLUBS.

MADAM,—May I make the following suggestion through the medium of our paper? If the excellent idea of forming a league and club for young girls in towns and villages where there are camps is carried out (as I sincerely trust it may be), I should like to suggest that "Country and Morris Dancing" might form part of the entertainment at the regular evening gatherings, and especially at the weekly "Socials" suggested, when the girls could invite their soldier friends. I know from experience what a perfectly delightful and healthy exercise "Country Dancing" affords. A lady in my village started it for girls two evenings a week last winter and it was an unqualified success. It is quite easy to procure trained teachers at quite moderate salaries. We had an excellent young instructress last winter, whose address I could procure for anybody asking for it. And after a few competent lessons it is not difficult—indeed, part of the "fun"—to work out the many varieties of dances for oneself. I know no better nor healthier entertainment.

L. G. R. I.

A RECREATION ROOM.

MADAM,—May I thank your readers who generously sent me subscriptions towards a Recruits' Recreation Room (many of them anonymously)? A very nice room is now built in "Tweseldown Camp," and is much appreciated.

SYLVIA CLARK.

THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

MADAM,—On the Select Committee which has been appointed to deal with the question of pensions to disabled soldiers and to widows, orphans, and other soldiers' dependents, every political party has been represented, but the women and children who will form the majority of those whom the decisions of the Committee will affect, have been left out. This, is a very grave omission, for the advice of women would have been most important in settling both the larger principles and smaller details of this most vital and important question. Surely, it would be possible to place on the Select Committee two women, one who would be representative of the officers' wives, and the other who would be able to speak for the working women, who will form the vast majority of those to be pensioned, just as their husbands form the vast majority of the army. It is also most important that the Select Committee, in taking the evidence on which it will base its decision, shall receive evidence from working women, who will be mainly affected by the result of what the Committee decides.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

[*We refer to this question in "Notes and News."*—ED., "C.C."]

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager,* The Common Cause, *2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

Notice.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* The Common Cause.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

Suffragists and the War.

Many of us, no doubt, have had our heart-searchings about the ultimate "rights of the war." Doubtless there are divergencies of opinion among us. But on one point all of us, I think, would be agreed. If this war is just, it is because it is a war waged for freedom and public right, a war against the domination of one powerful country, overriding the independence of others. No true Suffragist can be indifferent to the fate of any nation, small or great. Nationality is only another and more complex form of individuality, and to the Suffragist individuality is priceless. The vision of Humanity that inspires us is the vision of a willing co-operation between free units, nations, or persons, each giving and each receiving respect; a real unity, won and maintained in and through real differences. Persons differ from each other, and nations differ; not one can take another's place; but while they are different, they are not, and they cannot be, isolated; they can find, and they must find, in the blessed light of reason and fair-play, a place where they can live and work together. It is the business of the State to find this place for individuals, and the business of the world to find it for nations. In any developed State the attempt of one class, one group, one sex, to dominate another is doomed to disaster. That is our faith, the faith not only of those who call themselves Suffragists, but of all genuine democrats. Even where the attempt appears to succeed, we hold that it succeeds only by stunting the weaker and coarsening the stronger. Such success is the most pitiful of failures. In the struggle for the Suffrage we have seen how the barring-out of women from an equal voice has meant not only the impoverishment of their own lives, but the narrowing of men's sympathies and men's outlook. We want the Suffrage not only for our own sake, but for theirs. Injustices, and even cruelties, have been committed by men which would have been impossible had they felt they were dealing with comrades, human beings whose judgment had a claim equal to their own. Over and over again, insensibly and insidiously, the statesman's desire to lead has slipped into the tyrant's thirst to subdue, the free use of their own power into the refusal of power and freedom to others.

Just such a temptation, many of us think, has been the curse of a kindred nation, a most noble nation, the nation of Germany, ever since her triumph of 1870. Intoxicated with Germany's strength, there has been a party among her leaders urging her to dominate the world, impose her will upon the wills of other nations—all for the final good of these, no doubt, all with the best intentions: "the world is to be healed by being Germanised," for Germany is "by nature the head of mankind, even as the man is the head of the woman." And we see, all of us, in the Germany of to-day, whatever our opinions about the war in detail, the baleful results of such a doctrine. The country that produced Kant and Goethe, that appealed to universal reason, to universal culture, to the guiding star of Humanity, she has listened too long to men who see no star above them but the growing power of their own State, no contribution worth considering but the contribution she, and she alone, can give. Everything, some of them have taught her, must bow to that.

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Every means is justified if it furthers that. Here, at least, is one cause of the ironical result before us, ludicrous if it were not tragic, where the means have destroyed the end, where, in the name of Culture, the fairest monuments of the past have fallen in a horror of blood and flame. Germany, assuredly, had, and will have, something great and unique to give to the world, but one lesson at least of this appalling war is plain: the spirit that tries to force a gift by terror, and terror only, is doomed to self-defeat.

At its best the success of force is nothing but a *pis aller*: at its worst it leaves a hideous heritage, compounded of bitterness and slavishness on one side, arrogance and cruelty on the other. No free-born spirit can take full satisfaction in the work. It is only the bully who rejoices in making men do things from fear. Fear and resentment strike at the roots of that co-operation on which the true welfare, the true freedom, of the world, or of the State, depend. The mere conception of substituting one domination for another, saving one nationality by crushing another, should be abhorrent.

Whether we win or lose, let us do what we can to free our own spirits, and the spirit of England, from the stain of vengeance or aggression. We must be dull, indeed, if we do not see the danger when we read the Press to-day (in spite of many honourable exceptions), or when we remember the talk, even in peace-time, of "painting the map red," counting territory as "everything," hoping for "England first and the rest of the world nowhere." We Suffragists, sworn foes of sex-aggression, we, who have rejected militancy in our own sacred cause, should be of all people leaders in resisting the evil spirit of militarism, whether in the cause of our own country or another's. We would not use violence for the Suffrage, because we did not even wish to win the victory through terrorising our opponents. We wanted co-operation, not conquest. And one of the hopes that help us to endure life in these awful days is just the hope that we are fighting, not for one nation only, even the dearest, but for something greater still, the unity of kindred nations, the unity of Europe.

F. M. S.

The White Woman's Burden.

There is a dash of truth, as well as more than a dash of unction, in the phrase, the white man's burden. It is true that the tired Titan is almost invariably a well-remunerated Titan. It nevertheless remains true that he is frequently tired. To speak of India only, the Civil Service, the Medical Service, the Educational Service all offer honorable and fairly well-paid posts to clever and ambitious men; but the strain of the work is certainly greater than at home, and the burden has more often to be carried to the breaking point. If missionaries are excepted, it is a burden which has so far almost entirely been borne by men; but there has suddenly arisen a demand for women, other than missionaries, to take up their share of the task. In England, in the colleges and other training grounds for the type of women wanted, the eager demand for leaders and pioneers seems so far to have fallen on deaf ears, but it is bound to make itself heard soon, and there can be no doubt that then women as able and devoted as the Indian Civil Servant type will be found to take up their share of Empire-building.

To speak for the moment of education only, the newness of the demand lies not in the fact that women are wanted, but that women who are not missionaries are wanted. It is an appeal from nationalist and orthodox India to the most generous and tolerant type of Englishwomen, to the women who are both willing to serve and willing to lock their lips, though tempted by religion and patriotism to unlock them. Schools are springing up all over India, whose very *raison d'être* is that missionaries shall be excluded from them. There are the schools started in Northern India by the Brahmo, Arya, and Dev Samajes, the schools founded by orthodox Hindu and Mohammedan committees, the schools established by Parsees, who intensely dread that their nationality will disappear if once their pale Zoroastrianism is allowed to slip from the loose grasp in which their women now hold it. All these progressive sects keenly desire education for their women, but they fear the influence of missionaries more for their girls than for their boys. It is felt, as in so many other parts of the world, that religion is more important for women than for men, and that, though the men may be agnostic and entirely careless, things will still be all right so long as the women and children do not break away. So they collect their funds, establish their schools, and then discover with dismay that the corner-stone of their building, the competent English teacher, is not forthcoming. The missionary will not serve with a gag. The Eurasian or country-born girl, though freely accepted in government institutions, is not a *persona grata* to the high-born Hindu or Mohammedan. The Indian teacher, in spite of many excellent qualities, is hardly fitted to do pioneer, original work, in pushing a type of education which is still largely Western. The demand, even in the most orthodox and nationalist quarters, is invariably for an English education. Indian women, no matter how enthusiastic and well educated they may be, will not come into their own as the natural leaders and organisers of girls' education, till a knowledge of English ceases to be the goal and end of every parent's ambition for his children. Hence the cry heard on all sides: "Wanted, pioneers. Missionaries and Anglo-Indians need not apply."

It is a strange experience for the college-trained professional woman to realise on landing in India that she is a bird so rare as to be practically unrecognisable. So far English women in India have been divided into classes, mem-sahibs and missionaries. That a woman should be unmarried, over thirty, and not a missionary, strikes the ordinary man as a most abnormal state of affairs. That she should, if competent and highly trained, expect to be remunerated for her services more or less as a man expects to be remunerated strikes both Indian and Englishman as still more peculiar. The writer had an amusing illustration of this when discussing with the distinguished head of a missionary college the future staff of a Government institution. "Ah," sighed this experienced administrator, "there is nothing left for Government but suffragettes and adventuresses. India does not attract good women except for missionary work." It was in vain to point out that adequate salaries had not undermined the moral fibre of Indian civil servants and medical men. The great man remained of the same opinion still, that, if a woman is not married and not a missionary, in India at any rate she must be an adventuress.

That it should be possible for such statements to be made we must put down to the fact that the right kind of English women have not yet had their imagination stirred by the vast needs of India, and still more to the fact that the right kind of openings have so far been wanting. This is rapidly ceasing to be the case. Not only the various classes of Indian society named above, but also the Government and the Native States, are badly in need of independent clever women, who will dare to stand alone and to cut new furrows in which a whole army of Indian women may follow their lead. It is true that life in India is often lonely, and always something of an exile, and for women must always be harder than for men, because, cut off as they are from their own homes, they have not the same opportunity of forming a new home circle in the East. But along with the hardships there are many compensations. Personality tells in a way quite unknown in the crowded Western world. Every scrap of experience or talent which an individual possesses is brought into play, and opportunities spring up tenfold. Indian educationalists, both men and women, are touchingly grateful and willing to be led, and even the most omniscient young male inspector is secretly glad of a lead. India is the region of pathfinders and explorers, as opposed to those who prefer a steady tramp along the well-known beaten road.

A point to be borne in mind is this, that neither Government, nor Native State, nor Indian educational reformer has yet quite grasped the fact that the new type of woman they are demanding will have to be paid for. In India there is a noble tradition that those who have learning give it freely and without price to those who need it. The wonderful self-sacrifice and devotion of women missionaries has fostered this idea. They see two classes of English women, one living in comfort and ease, attended by many servants, the mem-sahibs; the other obviously spending laborious days simply dressed and simply housed, the teachers. They are unaccustomed to the idea that a woman may be a teacher and yet wish for a place in society and a comfortable home. But to this point of view they must be educated, not in order that the English headmistress may wear silk dresses or drive a better carriage, but that she may have leisure to mix in high-caste Indian society, leisure to travel, and freedom from household cares or unsuitable surroundings. These last tell on health much more quickly in India than in England. There is a great need for devoted, clever, unselfish women. There is no need for them to work under conditions which a man would consider needlessly hampering.

Of propagandist work on lines taken up by the Suffrage, Trades Union and Co-operative movements at home there is practically none. Yet the ideas seem somehow to have filtered

in at least to the best-educated women, and resolutions demanding votes for women are frequently passed in girls' debating societies, with fine disregard of the fact that men in India have not yet attained that privilege. The only Society working for the education and physical and economic betterment of Anglo-Indian girls is the Young Women's Christian Association, which has branches all over India, and is doing a splendid and most necessary piece of work, but it is wretchedly supported from England. It has, in fact, owing to the slowness of English women to realise how urgently they are needed in India, become practically an American organisation, and even with the far larger number of splendidly trained American women now in India, it is choked off and frustrated on every side for want of competent women.

For the next ten or twenty years India could do with any number of the very ablest and most competent women that the feminist movement has put forth. It is another reason for desiring the swift coming of the Suffrage. Only the passing of an Enfranchising Bill will release for action in the distant places of the Empire, the kind of public servant so urgently needed, so justly demanded by the less privileged women of the East.

Hester Gray.

WORK OF THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE RELIEF COMMITTEE IN NOTTINGHAM.

As long ago as August 20th the local branches of the National Union and the Women's Liberal Suffrage Union decided to join hands and form themselves into the above Committee—*i.e.*, Women's Suffrage Relief Committee—with Mrs. W. E. Dowson as Hon. Secretary and Miss Winser as Treasurer.

A Mothers' and Babies' Welcome.

This Committee undertook the immediate organisation and full responsibility of a Mothers' and Babies' Welcome in an outlying part of the city. They found, on applying to the Medical Officer of Health that, like all Government or Local Departments, they were overwhelmed with work, and yet had an eye on the ratepayer and the day of reckoning, so that the Committee's offer to work with them and pay all expenses was accepted with alacrity. Co-operation was invited from the Councillors, Guardians, Doctors, Nurses, Churches, Chapels, Women's Adult School, Co-operative Guild, &c., in the district, and the Salvation Army lent them their barracks, and on August 24th the Welcome was opened. Here, during the first month, nearly 1,000 dinners were served to expectant and nursing mothers, the charge being 1d. for mothers and ½d. for children under school age. A Mothers' Help Sub-Committee has also arranged for a weekly tea for mothers, with talks, lectures, knitting classes, &c., when babies are regularly weighed and advice given. The cooking and catering have been done voluntarily by members of the Women's Co-operative Guild and the Women's Adult School, under the superintendence of one of their members, Mrs. Earl; and the dinners have been so good that several women have asked to be transferred here from other dining centres. A Visiting Committee, with Miss Beebe as Hon. Secretary, gives the mothers individual care. Later on the centre is to affiliate with the other three "Welcomes" in the city, and when the Health Committee claims the Local Government Grant it is to have its share, amounting to half the expenses. In the meanwhile, an appeal is being made for funds to take some of the financial burden off the shoulders of the Women's Distress Committee.

Emergency Work-rooms.

In order to help at least a few of the girls and women thrown out of work in the city, it was suggested that the Committee should borrow some sewing-machines and start a work-room. Miss Priestley undertook the Treasurership of this department by helping with the financial responsibility, and her able management made a gradual expansion of the work possible. Miss Dutton, the N.U. organiser, also gave valuable help. The rate of pay was fixed at 3½d. an hour, working only 30 hours a week. To avoid any interference with legitimate trade, nothing made in the work-room is sold, but all is given, through religious and accredited organisations, to the poor in the city and to the Belgian refugees. An appeal to local Suffragists was sent out, pointing out that the class of workers the Committee were employing was far removed from those habitually receiving charity, and the immediate response more than justified the Committee's confidence.

After ten days' work in the Suffrage offices a very spacious floor in a neighbouring warehouse was lent to us, the firm charging us nothing for either lighting or heating. The number of girls was then increased to twenty-five, and an appeal for funds was sent out. As an encouraging result of these activities we have been told by some of the city authorities, as well as by "the man in the street," that we have done more for Women's Suffrage in the city during those early weeks of the war and subsequently than years of propaganda work would have accomplished.

A Cutting-out Committee and a Visitors' Committee were quickly formed, and every girl was carefully visited to find if she were really needy before she was put into the work-room. All cases were sent by the Labour Exchange, and the number was only limited by the possibility of running out of funds. Enough cannot be said of the way in which everybody helped with the work. Mrs. Trafford, Secretary of the Cutting-out Committee, and Miss Bedford, at first, and afterwards Mrs. Fisk, as Secretaries of the Visitors' Committee, soon found their hands very full. Where so many worked so splendidly, it is impossible to mention everyone, but Miss Dowson, as Assistant Secretary, and Mrs. Marshall as Secretary of the Distributive Committee, with the other ladies mentioned, gave almost the whole of their time till the work-room got into order.

In the middle of September the work-room was taken over by the local Queen's Fund Committee, and the Hon. Secretary of the Distress Committee was invited to undertake the Hon. Secretaryship for the Queen's Fund. The work-room then increased very rapidly, an overlooker was engaged as soon as fifty girls were employed, and the Executive Committee was strengthened by the addition of members of the Queen's Fund Committee. There are now 116 women and girls employed with two overlookers, one for each fifty in accordance with instructions from the Queen's Committee in London. When the work-room is quite full—that is to say, when one hundred girls are employed on the full-time basis, which will be at the end of this week, the second work-room is to be opened, as the unemployment of women is very widespread in Nottingham.

Enough cannot be said for the devotion and energy with which the various enterprises of the Women's Suffrage Distress Committee have been taken up by its members and their sub-committees. The British Women's Temperance Association have helped us with visiting, and the Church League for Women's Suffrage send a representative to the Committee, so that all the constitutional Suffragist Societies might feel that they were represented.

Our three Treasurers—Miss Winser, Treasurer of the Welcome, Miss Priestley, Treasurer of the Work-room, and Mr. Kentish Wright, Treasurer of the Central Distress Committee Fund, got the finances into such excellent working order, that the Town Authorities have had little to alter in adopting their work. The difficulty has been all through not to find workers to do the work, but to find work for the many volunteers who are seeking for something to do to help.

Amongst the terribly needy cases which have come before us, not the least distressing have been those of educated gentlewomen, who, their work gone through the war, have been left almost destitute, while their pride prevented them applying to the Relief Fund for aid. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be able to give work, however humbly paid, to people like this.

While the work of the Distress Committee is being adopted and financed by the city authorities, it is impossible, of course, that we should continue to label it, as in its smaller beginning it was labelled, "Suffrage Work," but the Committee believe the public are ready, as perhaps never before, to see that woman's help is necessary in the organisation of public affairs. It is still Suffragists' work to make the public feel that the place of women in deliberation and organisation is by man's side. It takes two eyes to see in perspective; it takes two sexes to lead the steps of mankind in the difficult path of equity and civilisation.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Meetings Held.

Wallasey and Wirral.—After the Provincial Council on Thursday, November 12th, a public meeting was held in the Liscard Concert Hall at 8.30 p.m., when Mrs. Fawcett presided over a large and interested audience. The object of the meeting was to show the kind of work women are doing at the present time. Mrs. Fawcett outlined the work that the N.U. has done; Miss I. O. Ford and Mrs. Swanwick also spoke. Mrs. Greville Stallybrass made an appeal for funds for the Wallasey Maternity Centre and Babies' Welcome which has been started on the initiative of the Suffrage Society. The collection, which was entirely devoted to the Centre, amounted to £7 18s. 9½d.

Weston-super-Mare.—By kind invitation of Mrs. Thorpe, the members and friends of the Women's Suffrage Society met recently at Messrs. Brown Bros. Café to hear an address by Miss Geraldine Cooke, on "Women's Work in War." Having been at the headquarters of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies at the time of the outbreak of the war, Miss Cooke said she could testify to the adaptability of women suffragists, the transformation of this large political organisation into one for the relief of distress having been carried out in a very few days without a hitch. Mrs. Gale-Scott spoke of the work being done locally by the Society. A room had kindly been lent by Miss Pady, Hon. Treasurer, and was being used twice a week as a depôt for the distribution of needlework to women. This need for the increase of employment was proved by the number of applicants.

Oxford.—Women Students' Society for Women's Suffrage. An informal meeting was held at Lady Margaret Hall, on Tuesday, October 27th, at 8.30 p.m. Speaker, Miss Hadow. Subject, "The Work of the National Union During the War." There was a very good attendance. Common Causes and leaflets on the National Union Scottish Women's Hospital scheme were distributed.

Cambridge.—A meeting of the W.S.S. took place on November 3rd, when Miss C. E. Marshall and Mrs. McCubbin spoke on "Women's Work in War Time." There was a fair audience and a collection was taken to defray expenses. Mrs. Bethune-Baker, who was in the chair, remarked that Suffragists had all along emphasised their desire for service to the State and now that a great opportunity had been given them they had not been found wanting. Miss Marshall described the work of the Central Committee on Unemployment, and gave some most interesting facts about the various schemes which had been suggested and carried out by the National Union.

Oxford, Berks, and Bucks Federation.

The Annual Meeting of the Federation was held on October 21st, when the following officers were elected:—Mrs. Cross, President, Miss Lyon, Hon. Sec., and Mrs. Berney, Hon Treas. Some alterations were made in the Federation rules, and the subjects of women patrols and the attitude which the N.U. should assume towards the war were discussed.

READING SOCIETY opened a day nursery on September 6th, and there is now an attendance of over sixty children a week, varying in ages from a two weeks' old baby to children of four. The parents and visiting doctors are very appreciative of the great improvement in the children who attend regularly. The Society hopes to get a grant for feeding expectant mothers, in which case a scheme could be carried on in connection with the day nursery.

The Reading Society has furnished workers for the Relief Committee's Index of Relief, and has obtained some statistics required by the L.G.B.

Members of the WOKINGHAM SOCIETY are serving on the Committees of the War Relief Fund and the Belgian Relief Committee, and have also helped by preparing for the reception of Belgian refugees and teaching Flemish peasants to speak English. The League of Honour has been started in Wokingham.

The HIGH WYCOMBE SOCIETY raised £131 2s. (doubled by Mr. Elliman, of Slough) by means of a Belgian Badge Day, which sum is being used to finance a work-room, where about twelve women, in distress through the war, make garments for refugees housed in the neighbourhood and elsewhere. On the initiative of some members of the W.S.S., a scheme for housing and maintaining about twenty Belgians has been carried out by a local committee, of which, at the suggestion of the Mayor, half were members of the W.S.S. Committee. The Society is also well represented on the local Women's Employment Sub-Committee, and a scheme in connection with this is being organised for which a grant has been received from the Queen's Fund.

East Herts Women's Suffrage Society.

The third annual meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Andrew's House, Hertford, by kind permission of Miss Cholmeley.

Mrs. Arnold Overton, President of the Society, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. The annual report showed an increase in membership from 136 to 205 during the past year, and of Friends of Suffrage from 294 to 398. The number of meetings and lectures organised without outside help had increased from twelve to twenty-seven.

The financial report was no less encouraging, showing that the Society had, in the past year, raised £75, as against £22 the previous year.

The proceedings terminated with a splendid address by Mrs. Rackham on "Women's Work in War Time."

The several local branches of the E. Herts Society have in hand a variety of schemes of useful work.

The HERTFORD Branch has opened an evening club for girls, with reading and writing room, classes in drilling and first aid, singing, dressmaking, and so on.

The WARE Branch has organised a weekly collection amongst its members and "Friends of Suffrage," on behalf of the twenty-five Belgian Refugees housed in the town.

The STANDON AND HIGHCROSS Branches have each undertaken an educational campaign on Food Values, Cheap Cookery, and Vegetarianism. The Highcross Branch was also the prime mover in getting two families of Belgians housed in the village, and the Suffragists of Stanstead Abbotts, the smallest branch, have undertaken the care of a family.

East Herts Suffragists are holding together well, and are determined not to let this opportunity of showing what they are worth slip by.

Scarborough Society.

Three members of the W.S.S. Committee were elected to the *Mayoress'* Committee; not—as reported last week—to the Mayor's Committee.

Kentish Federation.

The members of the ROCHESTER Society have hired a Recreation Room for one evening a week for the wives of soldiers and sailors, at the cost of 3s. per night. The bright cheerful hall and cup of coffee with a bun for a penny, seem to be much appreciated. A gramophone has been presented by the Secretary, and a piano has been lent. It is hoped that the Society later on will possess a room of its own, and that the club-room will be developed.

The TUNBRIDGE WELLS Society is co-operating with the N.U.W.W. in starting Women Patrol work. About thirty-three members of both Societies have volunteered for work, under the direction of Mrs. Macintosh. As Tunbridge Wells has a large number of soldiers stationed there, it is hoped that the Patrols may give valuable help.

Four of the Committee of the Margate N.U.W.S.S., and four members have been put on the Local Committee of the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund. Mrs. Southey, President, is sister-in-charge of a Red Cross hospital, and four other members are nursing at various homes for wounded soldiers. Other members are visiting the wounded, and knitting, and providing clothes for the wounded, refugees, and soldiers at the front.

The CANTERBURY Society has collected £10 10s. for the Queen's Work for Women Fund.

Belgian Badge Campaign.

LOWESTOFT W.S.S. held a Belgium Badge Campaign for the relief of the Belgians on November 6th and 7th. There were a large number of kind and willing helpers, both suffragists and non-suffragists, who were most enthusiastic and successful. The result of the two-days' sale amounted to the sum of £192 14s. 7d., the whole of which has been remitted to Belgium. Although thousands of badges were sold, there are several thousands still left, and the society will be pleased to present same to any other society that may be holding a similar sale, on application to Miss Isabel Cook, "Florence House," Pakefield, Lowestoft.

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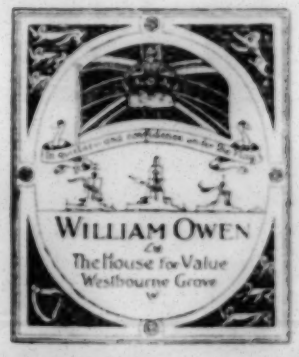

LEATHER GOODS
TOYS GAMES
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Many will be considering Christmas Gifts for abroad, and the Department is full of suggestions. In the Toy Section there will be much to attract the children including some excellent British products which are now much in favour.

Every afternoon PATRIOTIC SONGS will be given by MISS ANNIE REES on MONDAYS and FRIDAYS, and by MISS MINNIE NICHOLSON on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS, in addition to our usual Orchestral Music from 3.45 to 5.45.

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A Matter of Urgency

Buy your Ward Shoes and other Benduble Footwear before Monday next, November 30th. After that date we are compelled to advance our prices, as owing to the War the price of leather has advanced enormously. This is the only course open to us, as it is impossible for us to in any way lower our standard of quality. We give these few weeks' notice to enable our customers to take advantage of our present stock, which we offer at ordinary prices until the end of November.

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Benduble House Shoes are British made, in narrow, medium, and hygienic shape toes, in all sizes and half-sizes. One price, **5/11** per pair. (Postage 4d. Two pairs post free.)

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(THE MEDICAL MAGAZINE)

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss K. D. Courtney.
Miss C. E. Marshall (Parliamentary).
Miss Emily M. Leaf (Press).
Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Auerbach.

Secretary:
Miss Crookenden.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Hyde Park Meetings.

The Sunday meetings in Hyde Park now begin at 3 o'clock, and there is always a large and interested crowd round the platform. Among forthcoming speakers are Mrs. Swanwick, Miss Ashton, Mrs. Harley, and others.

Press Department.

Members of the N.U.W.S.S. should get *The Ladies' Field* Special Supplement this week, which is wholly devoted to the Women's Suffrage Movement and the War. It contains an account of the work of the Suffrage Societies throughout Great Britain, and has excellent photographs of the leaders both here and abroad. Mrs. Fawcett contributes an article, which our members will all want to see, and there is a strikingly good portrait of Mrs. Harley in the Active Service League uniform. We also wish to call attention to the article entitled "Above the Battlefield," by Mr. Romain Rolland, in *The Daily News and Leader* of November 23rd.

Literature Department.

In the notice of the "Women's Suffrage Diary and Handbook for 1915," now on sale, it should have been pointed out that 2s. and 1s. are the net prices of the diaries. Both the leather and the linen bindings can be had in red or green, and Secretaries of Societies may have copies on sale or return.

The Work-rooms.

One of the work-rooms is turning out some very useful pudding-basin covers at 2d. each, 1s. 10d. a dozen. They are drawn up with a string round the edge of the basin, and have a tape across the top by which the basin may be lifted out.

By the generosity of Mr. King, the Parliamentary Printer and Publisher, we are able to use his vacant premises at 2, Great Smith Street, as a receiving and distributing base for the clothes which people are so kindly sending us.

The Shop, 50, Parliament Street.

A pleasing feature of the National Union work-rooms is that where work has been done repeat orders follow almost immediately. This has happened in three instances this week—for dainty baby frocks, beautiful embroidered nightgowns, and shirt blouses—and almost all our customers have expressed themselves well satisfied with the work done.

We gratefully acknowledge gifts of flannel from Lady Chance, Mrs. Alfred Illingworth, and Mrs. Peploe, and of a portable wash-stand from Miss Thomson, with which the girls are hugely delighted, and which is a very necessary addition to our work-room.

Our stock of badges will soon become depleted if the sale continues at this rate. One of the women who has been working in our work-room and who has now been transferred to the New Kent Road work-room, has apparently been doing active propaganda entirely on her own, with the result that all the women sent in a request for badges and "Friends'" cards to sign. Also a girl, who left us last week to go to another work-room, asked if she might come in once a week to get The Common Cause.

The hand-made bedspread which a kind friend had sent us to be sold for the benefit of charities has now been disposed of, and we shall be very glad if the said friend will kindly put herself in communication with us, as her address has unfortunately been mislaid.

Toys.

The Christmas sale of toys made in the National Union work-rooms for the benefit of unemployed women begins at The Shop, 50, Parliament Street, this week. The toys have been designed to suit children of different ages, and to meet the child's natural craving for something to do. None of them are merely ornaments, but will fit in with the games and work that children love.

Of all the toys the most popular is Box Cottage, at 1s. (postage paid, 1s. 3d.). The Cottage is made of a box, with the outside specially designed by Miss Pamela Coleman Smith, and containing the roof, chimney, lawn, garden, path, and two trees, while the cover of the box forms a walled garden with a door that opens.

Two other attractive toys are the Dolly's Outfit and Red Cross Box, at 7s. 6d. each. The former contains a doll with all its clothes cut out for the little girl to make, and with thimble, scissors, needles, and cotton ready for her use. The Red Cross Box has bandages,

splints, pillows, stretcher, and dressings, and a jointed doll so that the art of bandaging can be effectively practised.

"This little pig stayed at home" is prepared for the babies.

There are other toys, too, which must be seen. Through this manufacture the National Union is finding work for many women whose usual occupation has been upset by the war. Some are dressmakers who are working partly at home and partly in our work-rooms; others are boxmakers who have been on half-time and who are now making Box Cottage in their own factories.

The Menderies.

Another branch of the Menderies has been opened at 173, Fulham Road, which is being managed by Mrs. Tyrrel Lewis; the shop has been lent by its owner for the purpose free of rent, and here, too, our leading lines of toys are on sale.

Hospitality Required and Offered.

Hospitality is still needed in London, for ladies seeking posts. Will those who can offer it, even for one week only, communicate with Miss Dorothy Courtney, at Headquarters? A report of the work of the Hospitality Department will be published next week. Hospitality in the country is asked for convalescent children. A generous response was made to an earlier appeal, but the need is again urgent. We have received some attractive offers from ladies willing to give hospitality and education to the daughters of officers. Some of these are still open.

LONDON SOCIETY.

The following Branches of the London Society have changed their Secretaries:—

BARNES.—Miss Evans, 4, Baronsmead Road, Barnes
BATTERSEA.—Mrs. Beaumont Thomas and Miss Beaumont, 6, Elspeth Mansions, Lavender Hill, S.W.
BETHNAL GREEN.—Mrs. Foulkes, 21, Raverley Street, Devon's Road, Bow, E.
EALING AND ACTON.—*Hon. Sec.*, Miss Bloxam, Haylands, Sutherland Road, W. Ealing.
ENFIELD.—Mrs. Nuttal, 21, Highbury Grange, N
EPSOM AND DISTRICT.—*Hon. Secs.*, Mrs. and Miss Thornley, Rosendale, College Road, Epsom.
N. HACKNEY.—*Hon. Sec.*, Miss Partlock, 70, Osbaldestone Road, Stoke Newington, N.
HAMPSTEAD.—*Sec.*, Miss F. Bagenal, 12, Keat's Grove, Hampstead, N.W.
KENSINGTON (South).—*Hon. Sec.*, (till Christmas), Mrs. Fyffe, 79, Victoria Road, Kensington, W. *Sec.*, Miss Boyd, 5, Onslow Place, S.W.
MARYLEBONE.—*Hon. Sec.*, Miss C. Elkin, 9, Abercorn Place, N.W. *Sec.*, Miss Rinder, 14, Westgate Terrace, Earl's Court, S.W.
MILE END.—*Hon. Sec.*, Miss Joseph, 54, Beaumont Square, Stepney Green. *Sec.*, Mrs. Foulkes, 21, Raverley Street, Devon's Road, Bow, E.
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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

NOVEMBER 27.

Bristol—Fine Arts Academy—Public Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Whalley, Miss G. Cooke—Chair, His Honour Judge Stanger 8.0
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home" 4.30

NOVEMBER 28.

Birmingham—Forewomen's Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 4.0

NOVEMBER 29.

Hyde Park—Near Reformers' Tree—Speakers: Mrs. Swanwick, Miss Ashton, Mrs. Harley, and others 3.0
N. Lambeth—Lying-in-Hospital (Nurses), York Road—Miss Ruth Young on "Elizabeth Fry"

NOVEMBER 30

Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party 3.0
42, Montague Street—Women's Club—Nov. 30—Dec. 5 3.30—9.0
Hitchin—The Co-operative Rooms, Nightingale Road—Mrs. Rackham on "Women's Work in Time of War" 7.0
Knebworth—Miss Plowden's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Rackham on "Women's Work in War Time" 3.15

DECEMBER 2.

Catford—Co-operative Hall, Brownhill Road—Women's Co-operative Guild
Gateshead—1, Cuthbert Street, Bensham—To read and discuss some book of interest to women 7.30

DECEMBER 3.

Bournemouth—Annual Meeting
Glasgow—Charing Cross Halls—Mr. John Mann and M. Henri Verbrugghen on "The Emergency at Home—Belgian Relief" 8.0

DECEMBER 4.

Brighton—Franchise Club, 4, New Road—Short Speeches on "War Time Clubs for Women" and "Some Experiences in Relief Work" 5.0
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Christmas Sale (War Relief Work)—To be opened by Miss Eva Moore at 12 noon—Chair, S. E. S. Mair—Admission, 12.0 to 1.0, 1s.; after 1.0 p.m., 6d. 12.0

REPORTS.

Correspondents and Secretaries are urged to communicate with the Editor before sending in reports, in order that space may, if possible, be reserved. Owing to the reduction of the size of the paper during the war, it is now more necesary than ever to allot our space beforehand. New ideas, as to ways in which women can be of use during the present crisis, are always welcome.

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	£	s.	d.
Per Miss Pearson, Collected	1	12	1
Mrs. Graham	1	0	0
Collected by Mrs. Matthew White	4	14	9½
Mrs. Matthew White	1	0	0
Per Mrs. Reid (for Dr. Hutchison)		10	0
Mrs. Middlemas		5	0
Per Mrs. Crowe	5	11	5
Per Mrs. Taylor, Collected...	4	5	9
Miss Mackintosh		10	0
Mrs. Voge		10	0
Mrs. Clark		5	0
Mrs. Oswald		5	0
Per Mrs. Hewat	1	18	1
Per Mrs. Baker	5	11	3½
Per Miss Maud Millar ...	4	11	10
Misses Thorburn		5	0
Miss Lucy H. Soutar ...		5	0
Collected per Miss Balfour...	4	6	2
Mrs. Alexander		10	0
Collected per Mrs. W. P. Scott	8	9	0
Miss Cruickshank	1	0	0
Miss Elliot	1	0	0
Mrs. Gregory		10	0
Miss Galloway		10	0
Mrs. Hamilton		5	0
Mrs. Henderson		10	0
K. K.	2	2	0
Miss Mackay		5	0
Mrs. McKenzie		10	0
Mrs. McDougall		5	0
Mrs. McMorran		10	0
Miss Ross		5	0
Mrs. Symington		5	0
Misses McLaren		5	0
Mrs. W. P. Scott...	5	0	0
Mrs. Young		5	0
Miss A. S. Watson		10	0
Per Miss Aitken, Collected...	2	18	0
,, Miss Scott ,, ...		8	0
,, Miss Brown ,, ...	1	19	2
,, Miss Shaw ,, ...	2	4	6
,, Mrs. R. Watson ,, ...	7	1	2
,, Mrs. Beaufort Brown, Collected	1	14	2½
,, Mrs. Bessie Cooper ...	2	0	6½
,, Mrs. McMillan	1	19	3
	£80	7	3

Per Mrs. Auerbach.

	£	s.	d.
Miss Bertha Dow	1	0	0
Miss S. Thomas		5	0
Miss C. Andrews		10	0
Dr. Helen Moore	100	0	0
Lady Emily Wyndham Quin...	1	0	0
Miss Mary Hughes	1	0	0
Mrs. Gibbings	1	1	0
Miss Diana White	10	0	0
Miss Mary W. White	10	0	0
Miss Mary Lakin	1	0	0
Mrs. J. S. Turner	1	0	0
Miss B. S. Howard Haynend	2	2	0
Mrs. John Dewhirst	1	0	0
Miss Janet J. Reeve	1	1	0
Mrs. M. Fane	5	0	0
Miss Bessie Laller	5	0	0
Mrs. Mears	5	0	0
Mrs. A. Christy	1	0	0
Mrs. Geo. Carslake Thompson	200	0	0
Miss A. J. Shaw	2	0	0
Miss F. M. Shaw...	2	0	0
M. J. W., Brighton	5	5	0
Hon. Mrs. Wilkinson	1	1	0
Miss A. Stevenson	2	0	0
Mrs. Ewart	1	0	0
Mrs. Elgey	1	0	0
Mr Chas. F. Edwards	21	0	0
Miss Agnes Lambert	1	0	0
Miss M. Barringham		5	0
Mrs. Lucas	10	0	0
Miss Ruth F. Western, M.D....	2	0	0
Mrs. E. Ferrero	5	0	0
Miss A. Littlewood	1	0	0
Miss J. S. Chree	2	0	0
Miss M. F. Hughes	5	0	0
Mrs. A. Webbe	10	0	0
Miss Mowson	1	0	0
Mrs. R. C. Alkinson	1	5	0
Miss M. S. Johnston	5	0	0
Miss Ellen Elworthy	6	0	0
Miss Alice Field	2	0	0
Miss L. M. Carver	10	0	0
Mrs. W. Blyth	1	1	0
Mrs. R. E. Clough	1	1	0
Miss Ella Cuncliffe		2	0
Mrs. Merton	15	0	0
Mrs. Edmund Lamb	10	0	0
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Mrs. Foster Cuncliffe	50	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. C. B. S. Hodson	1	1	0
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Mrs. Miller Cobbold	2	10	0
Mrs. Blagden		10	0
Mrs. G. de Vere Benson ...	1	1	0
Miss R. C. Cox	1	10	0
Mr. J. S. Mann	1	1	0
Mrs. E. R. Colman	3	0	0
Mrs. Rodick	1	0	0
Mrs. Bulley	5	0	0
Ilkley W.S.S.	5	0	0
Miss L. M. Adam	5	0	0
Miss Ellen Wayte	15	15	0
Mr. E. Hugesdon	2	0	0
Miss Rita Oldham	3	3	0
Anonymous		5	0
Mr. Chas. Copeman	2	10	0
Miss A. Zimmerman	1	0	0
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Miss Elliot		2	6
Miss Black		2	6
Miss Phillip		2	6
Miss Ritchie		2	6
Miss Crook		2	6
Miss Tiverdie		2	6
Mrs. Sinclaire		2	6
Mrs McKinnon		2	6
Miss Shiel		2	6
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Mrs. and Miss Storie		5	0
Miss Mitchell		2	6
Collected by Miss Tiverdie...	1	10	0
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Mrs. Comrie		2	6
Mrs Prescott		2	6
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Mrs. Dodds	5	0	0
Miss Scott Moncrieff	2	0	0
Miss Ritchie	1	11	0
Dr. Cargill Knott	1	1	0
Per Miss Knott	3	5	0
Lady Cranston Dunard ...	1	1	0
Mr. Grieve, per Mrs. Gunn ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Falconer		10	0
Miss Lena Logan	2	10	0
Mrs. Hendrie	2	10	0
Mrs. Stone	2	0	0
Mrs. Craigie Laird	2	1	0
Mrs. Clark	1	0	0
Mrs. Craig	3	6	6
Mrs. Flett	1	5	6
Mrs. R. Hunter	1	0	0
Mrs. Henderson	1	0	0
Miss Stewart	1	0	0
Mrs. Wm. Gunn, to supplement		3	6
Miss Frances Simson	2	0	0
Mrs. Mackay		4	6
Mrs. Oswald	2	0	0
Mrs. Hendry	1	5	0
Tablemaid		5	0
Mrs Cowan	1	0	0
Mrs. Balleny	1	0	0
Miss Raeburn	1	0	0
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Mrs. Stanton Coit	5	0	0
Mrs. Stewart	5	0	0
Mrs. Davidson		10	0
Miss Constance M. Allen ...	1	0	0
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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MR. W. TUDOR-POLE will speak on "The Deeper Aspect of the Great War" (Chair, Mrs. Despard), Saturday, November 28th, 8 p.m., Caxton Hall, Westminster. Tickets, 2s. and 1s., from Secretary, 40, Courtfield-gardens, S.W. Some free seats.

ALTRINCHAM AND DISTRICT INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY AND WOMEN'S LABOUR LEAGUE.—A meeting of members and friends of the above will be held at the Public Institute, Altrincham, on Friday, December 4th, at 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Margaret Ashton, C.C., on "Women and War." Chair will be taken by Mrs. T. Hewlett Johnson. Admission free. A Collection will be taken in aid of the Women's War Relief Funds.

MEMORIAL HALL, MANCHESTER,
MONDAY, December 7th, at 7.30 p.m.
HOPE SQUIRE and FRANK MERRICK will play UNFAMILIAR WORKS for TWO PIANOFORTES.
Tickets 5s. (Reserved), 2s. 6d. and 1s., from Messrs. FORSYTH BROS., 126, Deansgate, and at the Door.

THE LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE (N.U.W.S.S.) Clearing House for Voluntary Workers and Information Bureau, 58, Victoria-street, S.W. Donations for the Society's Women's Service Fund urgently needed by the Treasurer, Honble. Mrs. Spencer Graves.

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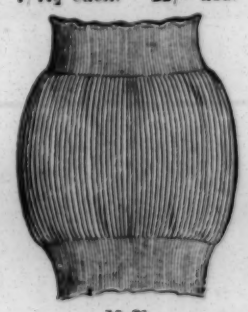

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